



From the Director

Each day, the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services is responsible for protecting and promoting the health of all Missourians, at every stage in their lives. This includes health status surveillance, regulatory/quality assurance, disease and health hazards investigation, information and education as well as direct services.

Missouri allocates only 1.2% of all statewide net general revenue to support this work. The department relies primarily on federal funding which is restricted to specific programs and services. General revenue funding has been reduced by \$24,355,658 (23%) from FY01 to FY04.

Our strategic plan is organized around the health and safety needs of the following groups of Missourians: Infants and Children, Adolescents, Adults, and Seniors. It includes special emphasis on a safe environment. For each of these result areas, an overview explains the importance of the result, why it is a critical issue for Missouri, and success indicators to measure progress. Annual targets out to 2005 represent objectives set for each of the success indicators. We also include trends for each area, as well as how Missouri compares with other states or the nation as a whole. Interventions, along with the Department's strategies for supporting them, complete the plan.

However, implementation of any plan requires resources and the overall impact on infrastructure due to staff reductions is yet to be determined. Additional reductions in program allocations will result in radical triaging or total elimination of discretionary services.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Richard E. Dorman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "R" and "D".